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# DOORS

BY HERMANN HAGEDORN

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LIKE a young child who to his mother's door  
Runs eager for the welcoming embrace,  
And finds the door shut, and with troubled face  
Calls and through sobbing calls, and o'er and o'er  
Calling, storms at the panel—so before  
A door that will not open, sick and numb,  
I listen for a word that will not come,  
And know, at last, I may not enter more.

Silence! And through the silence and the dark  
By that closed door, the distant sob of tears  
Beats on my spirit, as on fairy shores  
The spectral sea; and through the sobbing, hark!  
Down the fair-chambered corridor of years,  
The quiet shutting, one by one, of doors.

HERMANN HAGEDORN.